

EDLD 410:  
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 for Leadership  
 & Social Change**  
 2:00 - 4:50 U CRN: 22509  
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EDLD 409:  
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# Conference to address justice, anti-war topics

A coalition created after the Sept. 11 attacks will hold events all week, including national speakers, workshops

**Jan Montry**  
 Campus/Federal Politics Reporter  
 The Justice Not War Coalition is sponsoring the second annual "Peace, Justice and Civil Liberties Conference" at the University this week, providing students with an opportunity to hear national speakers address foreign and domestic policy. The event starts today and will end Sunday.

The coalition, made up of 30 organizations, including the UO Cultural Forum, was created as a community response to the Sept. 11 attacks and the resulting military action. This year, the conference — which includes themes such as "the assault on civil liberties since Sept. 11" — will include national speakers, workshops, art and music.

To start the conference, a rally and peace vigil will be held today from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Eugene Federal Building. Levi Strom, a student senator and co-founder of Students for Peace, will speak on the current University anti-war efforts.

"At the university level, it's very important for college students (to be involved) because the eyes of the nation turn to universities for guidance on social issues," Strom said.

Strom said he also hopes to bridge the gap between Vietnam-era protesters and more modern anti-war advocates.

Today through Saturday, national keynote speakers will present their ideas at 7 p.m. in 150 Columbia.

But the conference is also interactive, featuring many workshops and other activities.

On Saturday and Sunday, free workshops will be held in the EMU and 180 PLC. Workshop themes will include "Progressive Grassroots Or-

**Find out more**  
 A schedule of keynote speakers is available with this story at [www.dailyemerald.com](http://www.dailyemerald.com)

ganizing," "Health Effects of War" and "Attacks on Our Rights: Repeal the USA PATRIOT Act."

Concerned Faculty for Peace and Justice member Barbara Pope said the event is important for students because there is little opportunity in classrooms to talk about many issues the conference will cover.

"There is something of a national crisis in that people are very divided about the war," said Pope, also a professor emeritus in women's studies.

All conference activities are free except for hearing national speakers, which costs \$4 for the public and \$2 for students and low-income attendees.

Contact the senior news reporter at [janmontry@dailyemerald.com](mailto:janmontry@dailyemerald.com).

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## OSAC

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"Students have to work harder to figure out how to replace funding when it's not there," she said.

Bickford said the state should ensure low-income students can attend college. Education is a good investment for the state, she added, not just socially, but financially as well.

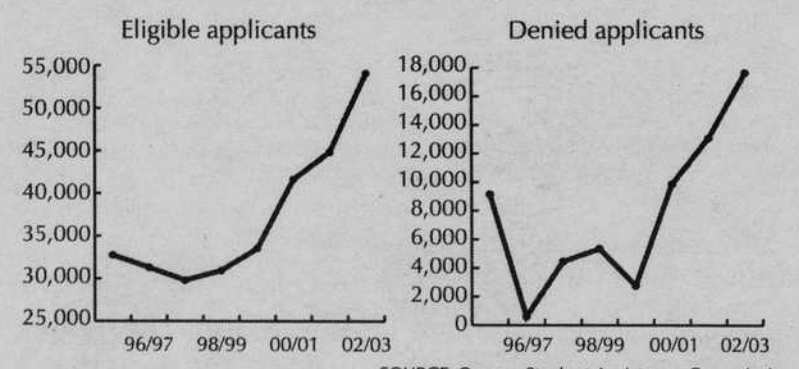
"There's every reason for wanting an educated society," she said.

The funding available for the Oregon Opportunity Grant has not kept up with the number of eligible applicants. This school year, the program had to turn down 13,086 eligible applicants because of a lack of funds. That number is expected to increase 34 percent, to more than 17,600 next year, according to OSAC spokeswoman Shelley Snow.

With not enough money and too many eligible recipients, OSAC was forced to make a difficult decision. For only the second time in the Oregon Opportunity Grant's 31-year history, the average award amount is expected to decrease. The average this year was \$1,214 per student and next year it is projected to drop to \$1,201.

OSAC Executive Director Jeff Svejcar said the state's weak economy combined with increasing college en-

## Problems with the Oregon Opportunity Grant



SOURCE: Oregon Student Assistance Commission

rollment are the primary reasons for the reductions. As the recession causes income tax revenues to decrease, all state-funded programs and agencies take a hit, he said.

"This has been a very painful process for the legislators," he said. "There are no winners in this process."

Svejcar said Measure 19, which voters approved in September, will further reduce available funding for the program. The measure tapped the Education Endowment Fund to close budget gaps in public schools. The Oregon Opportunity Grant, which is partially financed by interest from the fund, stands to lose approximately \$3.5 million in the 2003-05 biennium as a result.

Officials are also keeping an eye on the January special election, when voters will decide on Measure 28. If approved, the measure will increase income taxes to cover the state budget shortfall.

In the future, OSAC hopes to expand the scholarship program. The first priority, Svejcar said, is funding all eligible applicants. OSAC is requesting \$35.6 million in additional funding from the state to meet that goal.

"It doesn't seem fair to have some students who qualify not get the money," he said. "The goal is to provide access to all Oregonians."

Contact the senior news reporter at [kenpaulman@dailyemerald.com](mailto:kenpaulman@dailyemerald.com).

## KUGN

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Vice President for Administration Dan Williams said he is aware of concerns that have been expressed by students, staff and faculty regarding the University's affiliation with KUGN, but he noted that the issue is complex.

The State Board of Higher Education prohibits institutions from making contractual purchasing decisions for political reasons, Williams said. Free speech is also an issue, given that the University doesn't have the authority to dictate what is appropriate for talk-radio hosts to say, Williams added.

Bosche said KUGN wants to serve

the interests of its listeners and doesn't want to embarrass the radio station, the community or the University.

"We don't set out to offend anybody," Bosche said. "But we're somewhat locked in because we can't pick and choose which part of the show to carry."

Bosche said KUGN is not trying to stir up controversy. It is the station's responsibility to get the best ratings possible and to satisfy its advertisers, Bosche added. Despite complaints regarding Savage's and Medved's shows, Bosche said he has received a lot of positive feedback from listeners.

"We want to be responsive to the needs of the community," Bosche said. "And we would absolutely con-

sider changing programming if it doesn't fit the needs of our listeners."

University student Shayna Snyder, along with several others at Thursday's meeting, expressed disapproval of the University's connection with KUGN.

"It reflects on all of us really badly," Snyder said.

Another community forum to discuss the University's affiliation with the station is scheduled for Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Oak Room at the EMU. Students, staff and faculty who wish to learn more about this issue are encouraged to attend and voice their opinions and concerns.

Contact the reporter at [jenniferbear@dailyemerald.com](mailto:jenniferbear@dailyemerald.com).

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